

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **PRESS OFFICE**

## SBA Names Pawtucket's Aten Energy Conservation the Rhode Island Microenterprise of the Year

**Providence, RI** – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named Matthew Banoub, owner of Aten Energy Conservation, the 2019 Rhode Island Microenterprise. Pawtucket's Aten Energy provides residential weatherization and insulation contracting services throughout Rhode Island, focusing exclusively on improving the energy efficiency, safety, and comfort of its client's homes. Working through local community action agencies and National Grid's EnergyWise Program, Aten is able to coordinate generous financial incentives that ensure every client's project is largely or wholly subsidized with an average return on investment of 1.3 years.

"I would like to congratulate Matthew on being named the Rhode Island Microenterprise of the year," said SBA District Director, Mark S. Hayward. "Identifying opportunity and market for energy conservation demonstrates strong business foresight and the ability to do this with a total of five employees is truly remarkable," he added.

This award is open to any individual or individuals who founded, owns and operates a small business with 5 or few employees, has been in business for a minimum of three years, and has received SBA assistance.

The Rhode Island "Salute of Small Business" Awards luncheon will be held on May 10, and will honor all of the Rhode Island awardees and their exceptional small business accomplishments. For more information about the award winners or the "Salute to Small Business" Awards Luncheon, contact Ryan Brissette at <a href="Ryan.Brissette@SBA.gov">Ryan.Brissette@SBA.gov</a>, 401-528-4630.

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## **About the U.S. Small Business Administration**

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.sba.gov">www.sba.gov</a>.